

season of the year when the fashions make it desirable to change the style of hats from spring to fall, and fall to winter. We know of a case where a young sister readily promised to lay off her hat as a condition to her approaching the communion table, but she now insists that it was only her summer hat that she consented to lay by, and proposes to wear a fall and winter hat until the spring love feasts and summer hats come in season again. It is rather remarkable that the Gospel Messenger has not had a word of mention about the proceedings of the Brethren's convention at Ashland.

Bro. B. L. Gordon, of Indiana writes Oct. 10th: I have been here over Sabbath to fill Bro. Swihart's appointments, it being next to impossible for him to get here before next Sabbath. I find a kind-hearted, zealous membership here and enjoyed my short stay with them very much. Next Lord's day, I expect to be at Tiosa, Ind. His visit was at Waterloo, Iowa.

Bro. Isaac D. Bowman, writes that their meetings closed at Downsville, Maryland, with one addition and prospects for more. Bro. Bowman seems to have the Maryland field largely for his own, and let us pray that he may gather a good harvest.

The Young Men's Christian Association has hitherto observed the second Lord's day in October as a day of prayer for young men, and beneficial results have followed. This year the second Lord's day will be on the 18th, when ministers are requested to preach a sermon intended to increase an interest in a special effort for the salvation of young men; and the week following has been appointed a week of prayer for young men, by the authority of the Association. The future of our country depends upon the young men of today, and every work should be encouraged that will aid them in keeping their characters stainless and their lives Christian. Drinking, smoking, card-playing, gambling, dancing and theatre-going are leading them astray by the thousands, and unfitting them for virtuous, honest and worthy citizens, business men, professors and husbands.

Bro. A. A. Cober orders his mail directed to Farmersville, where his correspondents can reach him. He is now recovering from an attack of Quinsy, which was rather serious. A healthy throat is very essential in ministerial work and we hope he may speedily recover from the disease.

Amanda E. Mallott is now residing at Needmore, Pa., and desires the EVANGELIST sent to her there.

J. C. Ewing writes from Miamisburg, Ohio, that he conducted a singing there one week. He is now at Winchester where he will remain a week from the 15th. He has changed his address from South Bend, Ind., to Martinsville, Clinton county, Ohio.

The compositor made brother Isaac D. Bowman say, a "profitable sermon" instead of a "profitable season," in a late correspondence. Accidentally he was paid a deserved compliment, but modestly invites us to acknowledge the authorship.

Brethren will please excuse us from publishing reports of birth-day gatherings. A mention of such an occurrence might be allowable, but where no special religious news are associated with such meetings, it would be better not to report them. We are anxious for all the church news, but these social feasts belong rather to the local news of a place.

Good news from the Old Dominion. "We have five more to report since our last, who have made the good profession and followed the teaching of Christ in baptism."—E. B. SHAVER.

The Brethren Tract Society makes a very liberal offer this week.

We are now at work on the Convention report and it will be out in a few days. Send in your orders now and it will be promptly mailed when completed.

Bro. G. A. Copp speaks his piece very plainly this week. We heartily agree with him on the subject of crowding burdens upon the Brethren. But there are those who are not contented to let well enough alone.

Bro. H. E. Faldley, of Burr Oak, Kansas, asks us what M. E. Eshelman is doing. We understand he is laboring in the interests of the McPherson College, (German Baptist) Kansas.

Bro. W. J. H. Bauman is now conducting a meeting at Montevallo, Mo. There are a number of substantial brethren in that locality, and we hope the Lord may bless his labors with a great spiritual awakening.

We have not ridiculed D. N. Workman—he voted to sustain the College, German Baptist, God bless him.

#### Communion Notice.

The brethren of the Somerset church, Somerset Co., Pa., will hold a love feast at the Trent meeting-house, Sunday evening, Oct. 23d, 1887. All of like faith are cordially invited.

J. H. KNEPPER.  
Shanksville, Pa.

#### Echo, Kansas.

On account of protracted rain we adjourned our communion meeting from Sept. 30th, to Oct. 5th, at which time we had pleasant weather. Although the adjourned time was only announced at one place four days before the meeting, yet the tent, thirty by forty feet, was well filled, and good behavior and close attention was given during the services. About half the communicants had never observed the ordinances of the Lord's supper and communion before, yet all seemed to feel the deep responsibility of the occasion.

S. W. METSKER.

#### Auburn, Ill.

Oct. 5.—I have just returned from holding a short series of meetings in Christian Co., this state. As an immediate result of our labors there, two came out on the Lord's side. This is a new field for the brethren and needs cultivation. We will commence a protracted effort, the Lord willing, in our home church on the 3rd of Dec., at which time Bro. J. H. Worst, of Williamsport, Dak. has promised to be with us. We are looking forward with bright anticipations, hoping and praying that the Lord may own and bless the work of our brother to the saving of many precious souls.

A. M. RIDENOUR.

#### Milford, Ind.

To the Brethren at large, I wish to say that my year's service as pastor of the Milford church will terminate on the first day of January 1888. I will be succeeded here by Bro. Cober. This was the understanding when I accepted the work here. I am now ready to correspond with some other church that may wish to engage a minister for the year 1888, to commence about the first of January, and if satisfactory arrangements can be made, I would accept such a position. On account of other business that may require my attention for some time yet, I would like to get a position in Northern Indiana. If there are any churches in need of a pastor in this section of the State, address me at Milford, Ind., and you will be promptly answered.

Fraternally,  
J. A. RIDENOUR.

Oct. 8th. 1887.

#### Notes and Home Thoughts on the Convention.

Virginia came very near being a failure in representing herself at the convention. The railroad fare was too high and the convention was at the time when it is a busy season with most people in Virginia. Both prevented persons from attending.

Those who did not attend the convention may be considered as insignificant in the eyes of those

who did attend, yet there is one feature of the convention I can not endorse, nor I can not see any good reason for its enactment.

That is encumbering the church with buying the Publishing House appurtenances. What is the cause of the charge and what better results are expected by the purchase?

Whilst I would not oppose the purchase if the College debt was paid, yet I do think it a mistake to do so at this time.

Almost every congregation in the church has been solicited in the interest of the College, and so far the debt has not been entirely secured, and now before the College is on stable grounds financially, another new born babe is to be clothed and the wherewith is not at command to do it with. Already the church has been embarrassed for the want of means to build suitable houses to worship in, and to meet ecclesiastical and other incidental expenses, especially considering the financial crisis we are now experiencing. We have about all to do that can be expected for the present. We thought the originators of the aforesaid proposition had experienced enough of embarrassments and disappointments to let financial enormities rest for a while until the already contracted debt had been entirely liquidated.

This continued dangling for filthy lucre has been the one cry of many other churches whom the old-time pilgrims and many of the more modern doers-of-the-word considered out of place or order, if not altogether unbecoming. It has, too, the effect of causing members to become lukewarm, and sometimes shy and suspicious for fear of being run down for money.

What we need far more is a fund for evangelistic work. And so far as I know this part of the work was in a measure somewhat neglected. This evangelistic work has not been pushed with as much energy the last twelve months as prior to that time, and in my opinion the convention topic of the last year has caused the loss of movement in this work. This soul-converting work is really the most important work of the church, and certainly it should have the first and best effort.

To locate the Publishing House in the congregation that gives the most towards its purchase, would in all probability locate it elsewhere than at Ashland, and to do this would be detrimental to the interest of the College.

Furthermore, a private establishment can usually be run cheaper and often better than a public one, hence what is the necessity of a change? Certainly the present arrangement of the Publishing House has been very satisfactory, at least to its patrons. So also has been the Brethren Tract Society. In fact what is to be gained either spiritually or temporally by the change?

Bro. Shaver and Bro. George Rinker baptized seven persons in Warren Co., last Sunday. So far as I know they were all volunteers, having come to the church of their own persuasion.

The brethren expect to dedicate our new church at Maurertown in eight or ten weeks.

Communion services will be held at Round Hill church the

22nd of Oct., commencing at 8 o'clock.

G. A. COPP.

Fisher's Hill, Va.

#### From New Bridgeport, Pa.

More than an hour before the time for opening services yesterday morning the house was packed, and by the time services commenced there were fully as many outside as in. I wish some of our western readers of the EVANGELIST could have been here to view the hills surrounding us, and then look at the crowd, they would wonder where all these people came from. Our brethren did a good thing in moving the meeting house down from the hilltop to a place where people can get to it. They built the new house 10 ft. longer than the old one was and put up a neat bell-tower and a bell into it to call the people together. All in all, our Greene Co. people have a very neat and comfortable church house, and what is especially a good feature in it, it is paid for; and while our Somerset county friends have better facilities for entertaining their guests, I give it as my opinion—and I have tested the matter all around—that in point of genuine hospitality, our Greene co. friends are not a whit behind Somerset, or any other county or place. Truth is, all good people are good. This meeting house is named "New Bridgeport Chapel," and the church will henceforth be known as New Bridgeport church, located about 7 miles north-east of Cameron, W. Va., and is presided over by Bro. Henry Wise, (not of W. Va., but of Greene Co., Pa.) assisted in the ministry by Bro. James A. Murray and his son, Jacob M. Murray. The church was reconstructed in February 1885, with about 75 members. They held the meeting house without being disturbed in their possession, and now they have moved and reconstructed it and dedicated it anew to the service of God. The membership now numbers considerable over 100. I cannot tell yet, what the prospect for an increase is, but shall remain a few days and see. More anon.

P. J. BROWN.

Aleppo, Pa., Oct. 10, 1887.

#### Something In Particular.

Doctrinal Points with Scriptural References, No. 1, is the title of a pamphlet now in preparation. It will contain not less than 48 pages, and most likely more; for a partial list of contents, see advertisement.

A pamphlet of this kind is needed by all preachers and church members. It will talk on baptism in a way that will be beneficial, and will meet objections, settle doubts, and encourage the faint.

The price has been placed at \$2.50 per hundred copies, at least 4,800 pages of matter. This is cheap. The pamphlet will sell for not less than 5 cents.

The first edition is what costs, and we want to turn our money over immediately. To do this we will make an offer which will not have a duplicate.

If you will purchase one hundred copies at the price \$2.50, we will send you as a Xmas present, a copy of The Home Beyond, or any other \$3 book we handle. For \$2.50 we will send you a book and 100 copies of Doctrinal Points.

You can sell the book and get your money back and have 4,800 pages of good literature, to sell, or give away, as you see proper.

This offer is absolutely limited to the first edition of 2,000 copies, after this the price will be raised.

We want no money on this offer until Nov. 15th. But if you want to take advantage of this offer, send us your name immediately. The first who come will of course be the first entered.

As we said before this offer will not be repeated. It is made because we want money and wish to turn round the amount invested.

Yours for the cause.

JOHN DUKE McFADEN.

For The Brethren Tract Society.

Good company not only makes glad, but makes good, which is the best effect.—Thomas Adams.

He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me. (John xiv. 21.)

Kind words and looks are the outward demonstration. Patience and forbearance are the sentinels within.

If a man is faithful to truth, truth will be faithful to him. He need have no fears. His success is a question of time.

A celebrated traveler speaks of being in Alpine regions so high that he saw the thunder-clouds beneath his feet. Trials often lift us so high above the world that we can see the clouds of earthly care bursting beneath us, while we rest sweetly and securely in God.—Rev. O. C. Goss.

If a man would know whether the sun shine or not, he need not climb to the sky, for he may behold the beams on earth. So wouldst thou know whether thy name be written in heaven, never essay to get the view of God's own book. Thou shalt find the beams of that grace in thyself.

If one desires to know the full charms of music, he studies it; if of a language, he masters it. Only the Grecist can glow in praise of the tongue of Plato, and the Latinist laud the language of Cicero and Virgil. He only who has "put on" Christ can fully realize or fitly illustrate before men the power of his example, the glory of his cross, or the truth of his doctrine.

#### Millions of Acres Open to Settlement.

The land department at Washington has given notice that millions of acres of railroad indemnity lands will be open to settlement by homesteaders and pre-emptors within a few months. These lands are among the best lands ever offered west of the Mississippi river and in the Gulf States. Such an opportunity for the young people of this nation to acquire real estate for the mere taking will never occur again, as the public lands will by another year be practically exhausted. Thereafter the struggle for homes and land will resemble Europe. All who are about to start for the West or to locate on Southern railroad lands will find COPP'S SETTLER'S GUIDE of special service—published by Henry N. Copp, Washington, D. C.; price 25 cents.

It tells all about the homestead, pre-emption, timber culture, and other land laws; how to decipher surveyed township, section, and quarter-section corners; how long residence must be continued; what settlement and improvements must be shown; how and on what grounds contests against abandoned and illegal entries can be commenced; location of government land offices and names of land officers, and it will doubtless save many settlers from the loss of their land and improvements, as designing people often mislead uninformed settlers as to the requirements of the settlement laws.